

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A hand-held device for forming a circular shape in a sheet of material, the device comprising:

a first member having an upper surface and a lower surface, the lower surface adapted to contact the sheet of material, the first member having an opening of a first size extending through the first member;

a second member having a lower surface that is at least partially in contact with the upper surface of the first member;

a connecting mechanism coupled to the second member and extending through the first member opening, the connecting mechanism including an enlarged portion that is larger than the first member opening, thereby captivating the second member in a slidable relationship with respect to the first member about a first pivot point defined by the connecting mechanism; and

a knob coupled in a fixed position with respect to the second member and substantially aligned with the first pivot point, the knob having a size and shape that allow grasping the knob with one hand such that rotation of the knob causes the second member to slide atop the first member to form the shape in the sheet of material.

2. The device of claim 1 wherein the opening in the first member comprises a circular opening, and wherein the shape comprises a circle.

3. The device of claim 1 wherein the second member comprises a forming member for forming the circular shape in the sheet of material.

4. The device of claim 1 wherein the second member is coupled to a forming member that forms the circular shape in the sheet of material as the second member slides atop the first member.

5. The device of claim 4 further comprising an adjustment mechanism operatively connected between the second member and the forming member that allows the forming member to be placed in a plurality of positions with respect to the second member for selectively forming different sizes of circular shapes.

6. The device of claim 1 further comprising a cutting blade operably connected to the second member and adapted for contacting the sheet of material for cutting a circular shape therein as the knob is rotated.

7. The device of claim 6 wherein the second member comprises a blade holder, the cutting blade being removably mounted to the blade holder.

8. The device of claim 7 wherein the blade holder comprises a recess that is shaped to receive a substantial portion of the blade, a depth of the recess being at least equal to a thickness of the blade.

9. The device of claim 8 further comprising a fastener mounted to the blade holder, the fastener having a head portion, with the head portion of the fastener being located in the recess such that a space for the blade is formed between the head portion and a bottom surface of the recess, such that the blade can be securely held between the head portion of the fastener and the bottom surface of the recess.

10. The device of claim 1 further comprising an instrument operably connected to the second member and adapted for contacting the sheet of material for forming the circular shape as the knob is rotated.

11. The device of claim 10 wherein the instrument is a cutting member for cutting the circular shape in the sheet of material.

12. The device of claim 1 wherein the first member has a circular shape, wherein the first member further comprises index marks that identify two perpendicular diameters on the first member to facilitate the alignment of the first member on the sheet of material.

13. The device of claim 1 wherein the first member comprises resilient feet that contact and hold the sheet of material in a fixed position with respect to the first member as the knob is rotated without damaging the sheet of material.

14. A hand-held device for cutting a circular shape in a sheet of material, the device comprising:

a first member having an upper surface and a lower surface, the lower surface including a plurality of resilient feet, the first member having a substantially circular opening of a first size extending through the first member;

a second member having a lower surface that is at least partially in contact with the upper surface of the first member;

a forming member coupled to the second member that forms the circular shape in the sheet of material as the second member slides atop

the first member, wherein the forming member comprises a blade holder that holds a cutting blade;

an adjustment mechanism operatively connected between the second member and the forming member that allows the forming member to be placed in a plurality of positions with respect to the second member for selectively forming different sizes of circular shapes;

a connecting mechanism coupled to the second member and extending through the first member opening, the connecting mechanism including an enlarged portion that is larger than the first member opening, thereby captivating the second member in a slidable relationship with respect to the first member about a first pivot point defined by the connecting mechanism; and

a knob coupled in a fixed position with respect to the second member and substantially aligned with the first pivot point, the knob having a size and shape that allow grasping the knob with one hand such that rotation of the knob causes the second member to slide atop the first member to form the shape in the sheet of material.